Phytologia (April 1997) 82(4):265-268.

LASIANTHAEA MACHUCANA (ASTERACEAE), A NEW SPECIES FROM JALISCO, MEXICO

B.L. Turner

Department of Botany, University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78713 U.S.A.

ABSTRACT

A new species, *Lasianthaea machucana* B.L. Turner, is described and illustrated from Mpio. Tenamaxtlán, Jalisco, México. It is related to the widespread *L. palmeri*, but differs from the latter in a number of characters, including larger heads with enlarged outer involucral bracts having elongate spreading hairs. A map showing the distribution of these two taxa in Jalisco is provided.

KEY WORDS: Asteraceae, Lasianthaea, México, Jalisco

Routine identification of Mexican Asteraceae has revealed the following novelty. This brings to 40 the number of *Lasianthaea* species to be recognized in my forthcoming treatment of the genus for the *Comps of Mexico* (Turner, in prep.).

LASIANTHAEA MACHUCANA B.L. Turner, spec. nov., Figure 1. TYPE: MEXICO. Jalisco: Mpio. Tenamaxtlán, Recorrido de Tenamaxtlán a los Picachos, pine-oak woodlands, 20 Aug 1994, J.A. Machuca N. 7217 (HOLOTYPE: LL!; Isotype: GUADA).

Similis L. palmeri (Greenm.) K. Becker sed bracteae involucri amplificatae et coriaceae sunt, serie exteriore foliiformi cum pilis effusis 1-2 mm longis.

Suffruticose herbs to 50 cm high, the roots unknown. Stems moderately hirsute, the vestiture ca. 1 mm high. Leaves opposite throughout, ca. 5 pair to a stem, shorter then the internodes and not much reduced upwards; petioles 2-5 mm long, pilose; blades ovate, 6-7 cm long, 3.0-3.5 cm wide, pubescent above and below with rather rough stout pilose hairs, especially along the 3-5 major veins which arise somewhat above the base, the margins irregularly denticulate. Heads 3 at the apices of primary stems, the ultimate peduncles 4-8 cm long, pubescent with spreading white hairs 1-2 mm long. Involucres campanulate, 2-3 seriate, the outer series composed of 3-5 leaf-



Figure 1. Lasianthaea machucana, holotype.

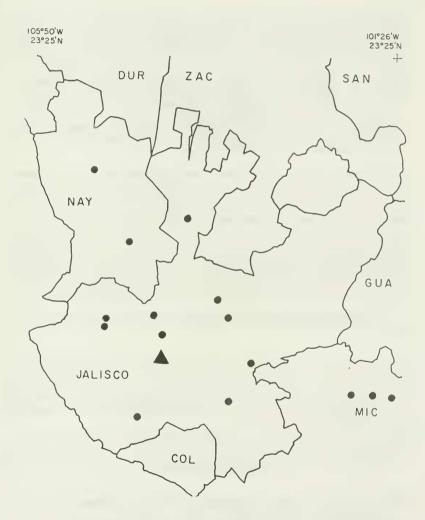


Figure 2. Distribution of *Lasianthaea machucana* (triangle) and *L. palmeri* (circles) in Jalisco and closely adjacent states.

like bracts, pubescent like the peduncles and 1.5-2.0 times as long as the inner bracts. Receptacle convex, ca. 2 mm across, 1.5 mm high, paleate, the pales linear-lanceolate. 7-9 mm long, the apices gradually acuminate, purplish. Ray florets ca. 11, pistillate, fertile, the ligules dark yellow, 3-4 mm wide, 7-10 mm long. Disk florets ca. 50 (estimated); corollas yellow, glabrous, ca. 6 mm long, the tube ca. 2.5 mm long, the lobes broadly triangular, ca. I mm long. Ray achenes (immature) trianguloid, winged, at the apex having 2-3 angular cusps 1-2 mm long; disk achenes (immature) radially flattened, winged, the pappus of 2 lanceolate persistent awns 2-3 mm long.

ADDITIONAL COLLECTION EXAMINED: MEXICO. Jalisco: Mpio. Tenamaxtlán, Los Picachos de Tenamaxtlán, pine-oak woodlands, ca. 2100 m, 11 Aug 1996, Machuca N. & Chazaro B. 7932 (LL).

This taxon belongs to the herbaceous elements of Lasianthaea, standing somewhat between L. aurea (D. Don) K. Becker and L. palmeri, possessing the short peduncles of the former, but the general habit and uniformly 2-awned disk achenes of the latter. It differs from both in having very coriaceous, markedly leaf-like, apically spreading outer involucral bracts, which are pubescent with spreading hairs 1-2 mm long. Except for the short peduncles and markedly differentiated outer involucral bracts, I could have readily placed L. machucana under the fabric of L. palmeri. As noted by Becker (1979), L. palmeri is an exceedingly variable species, including dwarf glabrous forms that have received the name L. xylopoda W.W. Jones, which Becker did not recognize, nor did McVaugh (1984). The distribution of this complex in Jalisco and closely adjacent regions, so far as known, is illustrated in Figure 2.

The taxon is named for its collector, a prolific botanist working out of GUADA, who was the first collector of the taxon concerned.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am grateful to Gayle Turner for the Latin diagnosis, and to her and Ted Delevoryas for reviewing the paper.

LITERATURE CITED

Becker, K. 1979. A monograph of the genus Lasianthaea (Asteraceae). Mem. New York Bot. Gard. 31:1-64.

McVaugh, R. 1984. Lasianthaea, in Flora Novo-Galiciana 12:558-575. University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

268